

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NICE 00339 281000Z

20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /082 W

----- 042398

R 280835Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL NICE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1137

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

COMSIXTHFLT

UNCLAS NICE 339

E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : MIL, OCLR, PINT, FR

SUBJECT / SIXTH FLEET PORT CALLS IN CONSULAR DISTRICT

REF : TS OF 12.29.75 AND PREVIOUS

1. SINCE THE RECENT VISIT OF PRESIDENT V. GISCARD D'ESTAING ON JULY 11, 1976 TO VILLEFRANCHE-SUR-MER (A.M.) IN CONNECTION WITH HIS REVIEW OF THE FRENCH MEDITERRANEAN FLEET, THERE HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLE COMPLAINTS BY LOCAL MERCHANTS AND HOTEL KEEPERS REGARDING THE LACK OF FRENCH NAVAL VISITS TO PORTS IN THE AREA. THE LOCAL PRESS, ON JULY 18, 1976 PUBLISHED A PETITION FOR THE NAVY IN WHICH THE VILLEFRANCHE SHOPKEEPERS EXPRESSED CONCERN REGARDING CURTAILMENT OF PORT CALLS AND REQUESTED THE MAYOR, COLONEL GILBERT BASTET, TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION.

2. THE NICE MATIN OF JULY 27, 1976 CARRIED THE FOLLOWING REPLY FROM COL. BASTET : QUOTE PORT CALLS BY WARSHIPS AT VILLEFRANCHE-SUR-MER - WE ARE ALL AWARE THAT THE SHIPS OF THE UNITED STATES SIXTH FLEET ARE THOSE WHICH MOST OFTEN CALL AT VILLEFRANCHE. A FEW YEARS AGO, AS THE DIRECT RESULT OF SEVERAL AND OFTEN VIOLENT PROTESTS OF CERTAIN LOCAL BUSINESSMEN AGAINST THE NOISE CAUSED AT EMBARCATION, THE AMERICAN ADMIRALTY, VERY EMBARRASSED, DECIDED TO AVOID FUTURE CALLS IN VILLEFRANCHE. IT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NICE 00339 281000Z

IS ONLY DUE TO THE INTERVENTION OF THE MUNICIPALITY THAT THE

SIXTH FLEET HAS RETURNED TO OUR WATERS. THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE MUNICIPALITY AND THE CONSUL, MR. MURPHY, AND VICE ADMIRAL TURNER HAVE PERMITTED A RETURN TO REGULARLY SCHEDULED PORT CALLS. THE IMPORTANT CORRESPONDENCE ON THIS SUBJECT MAY BE CONSULTED AT THE TOWN HALL. THESE PORT CALLS ARE NOT AS NUMEROUS AS THEY USED TO BE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

(A) THE SIXTH FLEET IS ABOVE ALL CONCENTRATED IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AS A RESULT OF THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

(B) IN ORDER TO CONSERVE PETROL, THE SHIPS DO NOT MOVE ABOUT AS OFTEN.

(C) LIBERTY PORTS ARE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH THE CREW, WHICH, VERY OFTEN, PREFERS COUNTRIES WHERE THE COST OF LIVING IS LESS EXPENSIVE. IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THE EXPENSES OF A PORT CALL ARE VERY HIGH AND, IN ORDER TO REDUCE EXPENSES FOR THE SHIP, THE TOWN (OF VILLEFRANCHE) PAYS THE TRANSPORT OF THE SHIP S REFUSE TO LAND.

WITH REGARD TO PORT CALLS OF SHIPS OF OTHER NATIONS, THESE ARE, AS THEY ALWAYS HAVE BEEN, PURELY ACCIDENTAL. AS A RESULT OF THE FUEL LIMITATIONS, OUR OWN NAVY DOES NOT HAVE MANY SHIPS IN TOULON.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, TO WHOM I SPOKE REGARDING THE PROSPECT OF HAVING MORE FRENCH FLAGS IN THE PORT OF VILLEFRANCHE, REPLIED WITH WE LL SEE ABOUT THAT . IT IS NOT A PROMISE, BUT IT IS A HOPE. UNQUOTE

3. COMMENT - THE PRESENCE OF AN AUGMENTED FRENCH FLEET IN THE MEDITERRANEAN HAS CAUSED NOT ONLY THE MERCHANTS OF VILLEFRANCHE BUT ALSO OF OTHER PORTS ON THE COTE TO PRESS LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR ADDITIONAL FRENCH PORT VISITS. COLONEL BASTET S COMMENTS REGARDING THE RESUMPTION OF PORT CALLS TO VILLEFRANCHE BY VESSELS OF THE SIXTH FLEET MARK THE FIRST TIME THAT THE MUNICIPALITY HAS PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGED ITS ROLE IN REACHING THE AGREEMENT WHICH LED TO THE SIXTH FLEET S RETURN TO THE PORT IN FEBRUARY 1976.

MURPHY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, PORT CALLS, CONSULAR DISTRICTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976NICE00339  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760291-0692  
**From:** NICE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760713/aaaaalmw.tel  
**Line Count:** 98  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hackerp0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 MAR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 MAR 2004 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <06 JAN 2005 by hackerp0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** / SIXTH FLEET PORT CALLS IN CONSULAR DISTRICT  
**TAGS:** MILI, OCLR, PINT, FR, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006